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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,533	02/23/2004	Wilhelmus J. Van Gestel	PHN 14,818D	7756

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

DEBELIE, MITIKU W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/05/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/784,533

Applicant(s)

VAN GESTEL ET AL.

Examiner

Mitiku Debelie

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 22 - 38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22 - 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 02/23/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 02/23/2004 has been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 29 – 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter as follows. Claim 29 defines a record carrier having information signal recorded on it. The claimed invention would have been statutory had it been worded to include computer program embedded in a computer readable medium. Computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program is a computer element which defines structural and functional interrelationship between the computer program and the rest of the computer which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory. See Lowry, 32 F.3d at 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d at 1035.

Double Patenting

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent

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and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 22 – 38 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 – 9 of U.S. Patent No. 5,579,183 in view of Lane et al (U.S. Patent Number 5,583,650).

Regarding claim 22, claim 22 reads on claim 1 of the corresponding patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,579,183) except for the limitation “normal play reproduction mode” and “trick play reproduction mode”. Lane et al., from the same field of endeavor, disclose, “normal play reproduction mode” and “trick play reproduction mode” (see col. 1, lines 37 – 41, col. 2, lines 48 - 53).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate “normal play” and “trick play” as taught by the instant application to the recording and reproducing device of the corresponding patent in order

to offer the user a verity of options for playing options (in this case letting the user playback audio with varying clock cycle).

Regarding claim 23, claim 23 reads on claim 4 of the corresponding patent (Patent No. 5,579,183).

Regarding claim 24, claim 24 reads on claim 22 above.

Regarding claim 25, claim 25 reads on claim 23 above.

Regarding claim 26, claim 26 reads on claim 6 of the corresponding patent (Patent No. 5,579,183).

Regarding claim 27, claim 27 reads on claim 26 which is analyzed above.

Regarding claim 28, claim 28 reads on claim 2 of the corresponding patent (Patent No. 5,579,183).

Regarding claim 29, all the limitations of this claim have been analyzed in relation to claim 22 above.

Regarding claim 30, grounds for rejecting claim 23 apply for claim 30 in its entirety.

Regarding claim 31, all the limitations of this claim have been analyzed in relation to claims 25 and 26 above.

Regarding claim 32, grounds for rejecting claim 26 apply for claim 32 in its entirety.

Regarding claim 33, all the limitations of this claim are analyzed in relation to claim 22 above.

Regarding claim 34, all the limitations of this claim have been analyzed in relation to claims 23 and 33 above.

Regarding claim 35, all the limitations of this claim have been analyzed in relation to claims 26 and 27 above.

Regarding claim 36, claim 36 reads on claim 27 above.

Regarding claim 37, claim 37 reads on claim 9 of the corresponding patent (Patent No. 5,579,183). Since claim 8 of the corresponding patent (Patent No. 5,579,183) recites analogous limitations as recited in claim 1 of the same patent, the same reason applies all the remaining limitations.

Regarding claim 38, claim 38 reads on claims 22 and 33 above.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitiku Debelie whose telephone number is (571) 270 1706. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 8:00 - 5:00 ET.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (571) 272 7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MD

09/27/2007


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